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in all ranks of society, what are the qualities to be encouraged, and what are the virtues to be unfolded.

The discourse abounds in enlightened views of the public good, and the best means of guarding national liberty against the licentiousness of popular will, as well as the encroachments of despotism. M. Borély is a warm defender of the revolution of July, 1830, the doctrines of which he considers the foundation of the liberties of France. He very justly eulogizes the moderation of the French, during and after that great political event, and shows, by their strict observance of "*les bienséances publiques*," on that as well as other occasions, that a new era of the French character has begun. "The French nation," he proceeds, "at the height of civilization to which it has arrived, requires of us that the laws and the fundamental compact should be observed, as well as all else which regard to the national honor prescribes; that is to say, that all hostile attacks, however violent and annoying they may be, should always find us invariably calm, free from passion, seeking nothing but the repressing of disorder by the manifestation of truth, and the application of the laws alone." — p. 8.

The spirit of this discourse is wise and calm. If such sentiments as M. Borély advances have gained a permanent footing in France, the days of bloody revolutions have gone by. The style of M. Borély, though generally simple, here and there displays a touch of Gallic bombast. Common-place ideas, at least ideas that have become common-place in a country that has long enjoyed constitutional liberty, are exhibited occasionally with the pomp and circumstance of important novelties. But it is a refreshing thing to fall in with French political speculations, which can be reconciled to the dictates of common sense, a love of liberty, and the support of order, after we have been wearied with the disgusting details of the game of assassination and political reform, attempted to be played by such wretched miscreants as Fieschi and Alibeuau.

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15. — *Ups and Downs in the Life of a Distressed Gentleman*, by the Author of "*Tales and Sketches such as they are.*" New York. Leavitt, Lord, & Co. 12mo. pp. 225.

THIS little book is written in a hasty and careless, but otherwise very agreeable style. It is the history of an unfortunate dunce, whose parents were also foolish enough to send him to the University, under the influence of a not uncommon ambition, of giving their son a liberal education. His preparation for College, and his career through the four years of academic life, are described not only with humor but with truth. After being gradu-

ated with as high honors as could be expected, our hero betakes himself to the study of medicine. He was as dull and indolent over the pestle and mortar, as over the Dictionary and Grammar. Finding at last that his genius did not lie in that direction, he betook himself to trade. In this new line of exertion, or rather of inaction, he made a brilliant figure so long as his capital lasted, and then did as many greater men have done before, failed. After this genteel catastrophe, our hero showed a wonderful versatility of genius, not in getting out of difficulty, but in getting still deeper in. He made a grand speculation with a steamboat, the steamboat took fire, and the Doctor was obliged to escape *in puris naturalibus*. He tried a speculation in the matrimonial line, from which he did not escape quite so well. The profession of teaching youth held out its attractions, but it is lamentable to say, that even here the Doctor's evil genius closely dogged his heels, and blighted all his golden hopes. An unfortunate fit of swearing, to which the Doctor's amiable lady was subject, having come on in school hours, broke up the establishment, and threw him again upon the resources of his genius, which as usual did not forsake him. Thus Mr. Wheelwright went on from bad to worse, now in prison, now in want, always in trouble, with an increasing family, and an increasing probability of starvation. We cannot follow him through all his "ups and downs," the latter of which were somewhat more numerous than the former, but it is enough that the end was more prosperous than the beginning. The Doctor got rid of his wife, and became a respectable coachmaker, a termination of a literary career much more fortunate and brilliant than some we have known.

The moral of this story is a very important one, especially in our country.

NOTE.

In the last Number (page 226), we referred to representations, in the newspapers of the day, respecting the errand of the sloop-of-war Vincennes to the Pelew Islands, which we expressed our unwillingness to credit, till the orders to her commander, and his report to the Navy Department, should be produced. It gives us pleasure to state, that we have seen extracts from those documents, manifesting that no violation of faith was intended or committed on the part of the government or its officers. Captain Aulick had no instructions founded on the fact of a ransom having been agreed for by the crew of the Mentor, nor was the department, at the time of issuing his orders, in possession of information to that effect.